



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Pennsylvania Farmers Expect to Plant Record-High Soybean Acreage Again

HARRISBURG, PA --- For the fourth year in a row, Pennsylvania growers are raising the bar on soybean acreage. Growers across the State intend to plant an estimated record 650 thousand acres of soybeans in 2015, up 7 percent from the previous record set in 2014, according to the Prospective Plantings report released on March 31 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The Prospective Plantings report provides the first official, survey based estimates of U.S. farmers' 2015 planting intentions, according to King Whetstone, Director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Northeastern Regional Field Office. NASS acreage estimates are based on surveys conducted during the first two weeks of March from a sample of more than 84,000 farm operators across the United States.

Other Pennsylvania's 2015 key findings in the report are:

- **Corn** planted area for all purposes is estimated at 1.47 million acres, up 1 percent from last year.
- **Barley** planted area is estimated at 65 thousand acres, down 7 percent from last year.
- **Oat** planted area is estimated at 95 thousand acres, up 6 percent from last year.
- **Winter Wheat** area planted is estimated at 195 thousand acres, up 5 percent from last year.
- **Hay** area harvested is estimated at 1.41 million acres, up 1 percent from last year.
- **Tobacco** harvested area is estimated at 9,300 acres, up 2 percent from last year.

The complete Prospective Plantings report and all other NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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